IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-42, and add new claims 43-52 as follows:

1-42. (Cancelled)

43. (New) A method of configuring a medical system for initial operation, comprising the steps of:

storing a data set descriptive of the medical system in a first communication circuit of a first IMD;

transferring the data set from the first IMD to a location outside of the first IMD; and

configuring a second IMD based on the data set.

44. (New) The method of Claim 43, further comprising receiving the data set via a second communications circuit in the second IMD.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, further comprising connecting the first IMD to a second IMD.

46. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the first IMD includes at least one optional component, and wherein configuring the second IMD includes recognizing the presence of the at least one optional component.

47. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein configuring the second IMD includes optimizing operation with circuits included within the first IMD.

48. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein configuring the second IMD includes disabling one or more functions of the second IMD.

49. (New) The method of Claim 44, further comprising powering the first communications circuit via a signal from the second communications circuit.

50.   (New) The method of Claim 43, further comprising configuring a third IMD and wherein the data set includes operating parameters of the second IMD.

51.   (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the data set includes operating parameters of the first IMD.

52.   (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the location outside the first IMD is in a programmer.